

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: February 14, 2008

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:02 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:17 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Susie Day, Chair
Ginny Cain
Monroe Gray, Jr.
Janice McHenry
William Oliver
Mike Speedy

Absent Members

Vernon Brown

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 22, 2008- appoints Diana M. Hall to the Board of Parks and Recreation
"Do Pass" Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 62, 2008 -appoints Matthew T. Klein to the Indianapolis Greenways
Development Committee
"Postponed" until March 6, 2008
Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 63, 2008- appoints Kenneth Pendleton to the Indianapolis Greenways
Development Committee
"Do Pass" Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 64, 2008- appoints Eugene Schulstad to the Indianapolis Greenways
Development Committee
"Do Pass" Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 65, 2008- appoints Joseph E. Mayes to the Board of Parks and
Recreation
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, February 14, 2008. Chair Susie Day called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. with the following members present: Ginny Cain, William Oliver, and Mike Speedy. Janice McHenry and Monroe Gray, Jr. arrived shortly thereafter, and Vernon Brown was absent.

PROPOSAL NO. 22, 2008- appoints Diana M. Hall to the Board of Parks and Recreation

Ms. Diana Hall said that she served on the Parks Board from 1993-2004. She stated that she is a retired health and physical education teacher for Perry Township. She taught at the middle school for 13 years and at the elementary school for 17 years. She said that she is very much an advocate of parks and recreation, and the opportunity that it provides for the community. She has two children and eight grandchildren. She is the president of the Perry Township Retired Teachers Association, and also has a real estate company, Classic Realty Inc.

{Clerk's Note: Councillor McHenry arrived at 5:04 p.m.}

Councillor Speedy responded that he volunteered with Ms. Hall in the past, and she was a pleasure to work with in the volunteer capacity.

He said that he was delighted to see that she could help them out again, and he looks forward to supporting her. Councillor Oliver inquired about Ms. Hall's riding a bike for the Special Olympics. He asked how her experience with that would integrate with the Parks Department. Ms. Hall said that it was a great fundraising project for the Special Olympics. She added that she was most proud of her association with the heart association and "jump rope for heart." Ms. Hall said that it was for a very worthy cause, and in addition to that, it teaches children and adults to contribute to their community, and gives them an opportunity to take care of their health and well being. She said that jump rope is one of the best exercises to do, and the Special Olympics is a great opportunity for children. She stated that children with special needs get an opportunity to participate. She thanked Councillor Oliver for asking, and said that it had been quite a while ago that she was chairman of that effort, where she had raised \$ 5,000.00.

Councillor Speedy moved, seconded by Councillor Cain, to send Proposal No. 22, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 62, 2008 -appoints Matthew T. Klein to the Indianapolis Greenways

Chair Day stated that Mr. Klein is not able to attend the meeting and she would entertain a motion to postpone this proposal.

Councillor Speedy moved, seconded by Councillor Cain, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 62, 2008 until March 6, 2008. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 63, 2008- appoints Kenneth Pendleton to the Indianapolis Greenways

Mr. Pendleton stated that this is the 41st anniversary that he started his business and moved to Indianapolis. He said that in the past eleven years he has been active in his community with the Sertoma club, and the Masthead Property Owner's association. Mr. Pendleton said that the Greenways and the Monon Trail are marvelous assets to the city. Mr. Pendleton said that he is looking forward to being appointed to the Greenways Development Committee. Councillor Cain said that Mr. Pendleton helped to build a trail in District 5; and that he is a great advocate in helping people to get outside and enjoy nature. She thanked him for his willingness to serve on this committee.

Councillor Cain moved, seconded by Councillor Speedy, to send Proposal No. 63, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Councillor Oliver asked if all appointees' background checks have been completed. Chair Day answered in the affirmative.

PROPOSAL NO. 64, 2008- appoints Eugene Schulstad to the Indianapolis Greenways

Mr. Schulstad said that his interest in Greenways started in the 80s and early 90s when he started doing a lot of traveling. He said that when he was in cities such as Washington D.C. and Boise, Idaho, he would have the opportunity to run on the trails that were built and he thought that was great. He stated that he was excited when Indianapolis started to build Greenways, the Monon, Fall Creek and other trails. He said that part of his interest to be on the committee was a personal one. He thinks that Greenways are also a great asset to the community from an economic standpoint, as well as the health benefits they offer to citizens. Mr. Schulstad said he is anxious to serve on the committee and assist in the efforts to expand those opportunities.

Councillor Cain said that Mr. Schulstad is from her district, and that she had a chance to meet him and his wife through the Sergeant Road Association, which is very active in preserving beauty along Sergeant Road and the Skiles Test area. She thinks that he would be a wonderful asset to that area as well as Marion County.

Councillor McHenry moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 64, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 65, 2008- appoints Joseph E. Mayes to the Board of Parks and Recreation

Mr. Joseph Mayes began by thanking the chair and committee members. He went on to say that he resides on the North side of Indianapolis with his wife and nine month old daughter.

{Clerk's Note: Councillor Gray arrived at 5:14 p.m.}

Mr. Mayes works downtown for Rundell Ernstberger, and associates, a land planning, urban design and landscape architecture firm. He said that one of their specialties is

parks and recreational design, and they believe strongly in community involvement. He added that he is honored to be considered for the board.

Councillor Oliver said that Mr. Mayes has done some work in Noblesville, and asked if he would be an advocate to link trails across central Indiana, Hamilton County, and areas east and west of Hamilton County. Mr. Mayes replied that he thinks it is a great opportunity to link up and make a central greenway and parks system. Councillor Oliver asked Mr. Mayes how he thought Central Indiana fitted in the 21st century as far as exercise and walking trails, based on his traveling experience; and if Central Indiana is ahead, behind, or even with the times. Mr. Mayes replied that he thinks Indiana is some where in the middle, and that they are doing well.

Mr. Mayes said that city had some great programs and projects in the past. Some that come to mind are the Monon Trail and the Fall Creek greenway. He said based on Kessler's original plan for Indianapolis, he thinks it is a great overall master plan that Indianapolis is continuing to implement.

Councillor Oliver moved, seconded by Councillor Speedy, to send Proposal No. 65, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

New Business

Joseph Wynns, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), stated that DPR received their accreditation report from the commission, and DPR has received its accreditation for meeting 154 out of 155 standards. He said that DPR will be going to Washington in March 2008 to receive their accreditation, which will be good for five years. Mr. Wynns said that Megan Bauer, Project Development Analyst, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), did a fantastic job on the report, and he will make sure that each committee member receives a copy of the official report once it is completed. Mr. Wynns stated that things are going well in DPR. He said DPR is working with the budget, applying for grants, and getting the pools ready for the summer. Mr. Wynns said that he also attended a partnership breakfast, and a lot of DPR's partners are supporting them again this year. Chair Day said that she attended the breakfast, and it was very nice.

Councillor Oliver said that he is interested in the promotion of the parks for the upcoming season, and how DPR is handling the blitz and awareness to the public on what the parks has to offer. Mr. Wynns responded by saying that DPR is currently strategizing their marketing piece on the parks. He said that they have a new marketing manager with new communications, and are currently trying to determine how they are going to handle the awareness for the public, how they will do the blitz, and what their message is going to be. He said that he is aware that Councillor Oliver and the staff have been having some difficulties making contact with each other, but not to worry, they will be getting together soon. Mr. Wynns said that DPR has a meeting next month with the Citizen and Forest Manor Neighborhood Association, coinciding with the Mayor's Night Out.

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With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SD/cj

Susie Day, Chair
Parks and Recreation Committee